

REMARKS

Claims 1, 9, and 14 are amended to make explicit that the data displayed in a hovering row are associated with a displayed row, and that the hovering row is displayed adjacent to the displayed row, and that the hovering row is displayed in the same visible area of the window as the displayed row. Support for these claims is found throughout the specification, in particular at Figure 4. No new matter is added.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,313,848 to Hoag ("Hoag") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,225,996 to Gibb ("Gibb"). Hoag discloses dividing a tabular data display workspace into panes, and displaying different columns and the same rows of a table segment in each pane. Hoag does not teach or suggest displaying information from one or more columns outside of the viewable area of a window in a hovering row. The examiner cited it to Figure 7 of Gibb, asserting that columns G-J overlaying columns E-H where columns I-J were off screen discloses a hovering row. The columns G-J are displayed in a separate window 702. "Referring now to FIG. 7, there is an example of a screen display 700 containing two scrollable windows 701, 702 offering views into the same document." col. 6, lines 39-42.

Claims 1, 9, and 14 recite only one window. Additionally, these claims are amended herein to explicitly recite that the hovering row is displayed in the same viewable portion of the (same) window as the displayed row. Accordingly, the disclosure of Gibb's Figure 7 does not teach or suggest the hovering row recited in the independent claims.

The Examiner asserted that Gibb additionally discloses the ability to view row data that would normally be off the screen, citing to Figure 8. Gibb's invention is the display of an off-screen cell in a display field 602 that is embedded in the status bar of

the window so as to not obscure the display of cells in the viewable area of the window.

Claim 1 is amended to recite, "for at least one row of said table in said displayed portion, displaying information from one or more columns outside said viewable area in a hovering row adjacent to the displayed row, in the same viewable area of said window."

Claims 9 and 14 are amended similarly.

Neither Hoag nor Gibb, alone or in combination, teach or suggest these limitations. Hoag discloses displaying otherwise hidden columns in separate panes (i.e., separate viewable areas) of the window, and does not disclose displaying data in a hovering row at all. Gibb discloses displaying one or more cells in a display field embedded in the status bar of the window. The display field is not in the same viewable area of the window as the displayed portion of the row. Neither Hoag nor Gibb teach or suggest displaying hidden data in a hovering row adjacent to the displayed row.

As amended, claims 1, 9, and 14 define patentable nonobviousness over the combination of Hoag and Gibb. As each dependent claim includes all limitations of its parent claim(s), the dependent claims similarly define patentably over the art of record. However, Applicant specifically traverses the rejection of certain dependent claims.

Regarding claims 4, 10, and 15, the Examiner cited to Gibb's disclosure that a user may select a cell for display regardless of whether the cell is on or off screen. In either case, the cell is always displayed in the display field 602. Gibb does not teach or suggest that the display field 602 itself may be dynamically displayed or not displayed, in response to a user input.

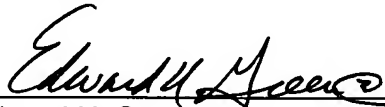
Regarding claims 6-7, 11, and 16, the examiner cited to Gibb's disclosure that once a selected, a cell is displayed in the display field 602 regardless of whether the cell is in a visible portion of the window, and that the cell is displayed until another cell is

selected for display. Gibb does not teach or suggest that the static display of the display field 602 itself may be toggled by the user, or the provision of a toggle button to do so.

As amended herein, all claims recite patentable nonobvious nose over the art of record. Accordingly, prompt allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

COATS & BENNETT, P.L.L.C.



Edward H. Green, III
Registration No.: 42,604

Dated: April 28, 2006

P.O. Box 5
Raleigh, NC 27602
Telephone: (919) 854-1844
Facsimile: (919) 854-2084